



**Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands
COMMUNITY DESIGN MEETING #3
NOTES**

Thursday September 13, 2012, 5:30 - 8 pm
Rainier Beach Urban Farm & Wetlands,
5513 S Cloverdale Street, Seattle, WA 98118

Forty five community members attended the final community design meeting for the Opportunity Fund renovation project of Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands. We opened the meeting with introductions from both Seattle Tilth and the Friends of Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands. The Berger Partnership, CAST Architecture and Seattle Urban Farming Company presented the schematic plan for the Urban Farm and Wetland. The schematic plan includes a loop access road off of Cloverdale Street, concentration of the green house buildings in the northern most portion of the site, and provides a central gathering space, teaching and demonstration gardens in the eastern side of the site. The schematic plans also provides for minimal impact to the critical areas on site. Parks and the Berger Partnership will compile all input from the community to inform the development of the design for the renovation of the open space.

Meeting Comments:

1. Where is the new entrance along Cloverdale?
The new entrance will happen on the NW corner of the site.
2. What is the purpose of Cold Storage?
Cold storage will be used to extend the life of perishable crops/vegetables.
3. Onsite parking is limited, how is the number calculated?
There are 14 parking stalls in total, out of which 2 are ADA accessible. We do not expect a large volume of visitors and the number provided on the site plan should be sufficient for smaller groups. The road width is 20' and on occasions can be used for parking on one side. There is also room for school bus parking and truck access.
4. Suggestion: Native nursery area could be located along the East edge of the property under the groups of trees, in a shaded spot.
That is an option to consider.
5. What kind of Aquaponic system will be used?
The design team is open to suggestions. As of now no particular system has been chosen for the site.
6. Will we be raising chickens?
Yes, there are three chicken coops proposed for the site.
7. The solar house appears to be in the middle of the circulation path. What if heavy farming machinery has to move further into the site?
The solar house is an open structure and is well connected through gravel path to the rest of the site for ease of movement.
8. Have you thought about water use/ water harvesting?
Yes, two water harvesting cisterns have been proposed for the site. The water harvesting is limited to the structures proposed on site and the available roof area.
9. What is the plan to protect Wildlife and natural habitat?
We are creating a clear and continuous connection for Wildlife and Natural habitat through the wetlands.
10. Any plans of creating electric car charging stations?
We have thought about it, but it is not included in the plans at this time.
11. Is there circulation and usage for people in Wheelchairs?
There is a direct route of travel provided with ADA accessible slopes from the parking lot to the middle of the site.

12. Is there a clear separation between pedestrian and vehicular use?
Yes, the vehicular circulation happens only on the North end of the site with a 20' wide road. The rest of the area is left for pedestrian circulation only with occasional vehicle use related to farming needs on the pedestrian pathways.
13. Has the park department done a survey of all the existing trees on the site?
Yes, we have an updated survey. In addition, Jason Henry has made site visits to identify many of the trees that will be saved during construction.
14. Are you proposing nut trees (other protein source) - grove/orchard on site?
Yes, currently the schematic plan shows a grove of fruit trees on the SE corner of the site, this may include nut trees.
15. The one way road might be inconvenient for service vehicles and maintenance staff. They will have to take the whole loop road to go in and out of the site.
The one-way road helps in maintaining clear circulation on-site.
16. Have you considered goats and other livestock?
Yes, chickens are proposed. Goats may be kept at the site as well and they may also be used to help clear vegetation from the site. Other livestock is dependent on what is allowed in Seattle city limits.
17. Have you considered goats for wetland mitigation?
Yes, we have. We have seen that it's a successful way for clearing invasive plants and other vegetation on our other projects.
18. What is the amount of vegetation that will remain along Cloverdale?
Almost all, a minimal amount of vegetation will be removed for the proposed NW road entry.
19. What type of public/private events will happen here?
Comparable to what exists now.
20. Will the neighbors be informed about major public events in the area, which might disturb the neighborhood activities?
Yes, Seattle Tilth always sends out prior notice through City of Seattle to neighborhoods that might be affected by a public event.
21. The green houses should be multi-purpose, because it is an experimental project and we don't know what will work.
Yes, we will consider proposing that.
22. What is the timeline for this project?
We plan to move forward with the permit process and start construction by next spring.
23. How much of the work will be done by volunteers and how much by contractors?
A lot of the work on-site can be done by volunteers. It will be a great learning opportunity for all.
24. Can you give an approximate date of completion?
It depends on permits and funding. But we hope to be complete by end of the spring, 2013.

Budget:

The total budget for the renovation is \$550,000. Funding for this project is provided through the Department of Neighborhoods Large Matching Fund and the 2008 Parks and Green Spaces Levy Opportunity Fund. The project budget cover all costs associated with the project including administration, design, permits, bidding and construction.

Rainier Beach Urban Farm & Wetlands Timeline	2012 Quarters			2013 Quarters			
	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Pro View – Internal Parks review of proposed project elements.	★	★	★				
Community Meetings – Early discussions with community members and presentation of site analysis.	June 19						
Community Meeting #2 –Presentation of schematic designs and public input.		July 28					
Community Meeting #3 –Presentation of schematic design.		Sept 13					
<i>Schematic Design Complete</i>		★					
DPD Permit Review – Submittal and Review			★				
Pro View Technical Review – Internal Technical Review of 65% Construction Drawings			★				
Pro View Technical Review – Internal Technical Review of 95% Construction Drawings			★				
<i>Design Development and Construction Drawings Complete</i>				★			
Construction					★	★	
Project Close Out							★

For more information contact:

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